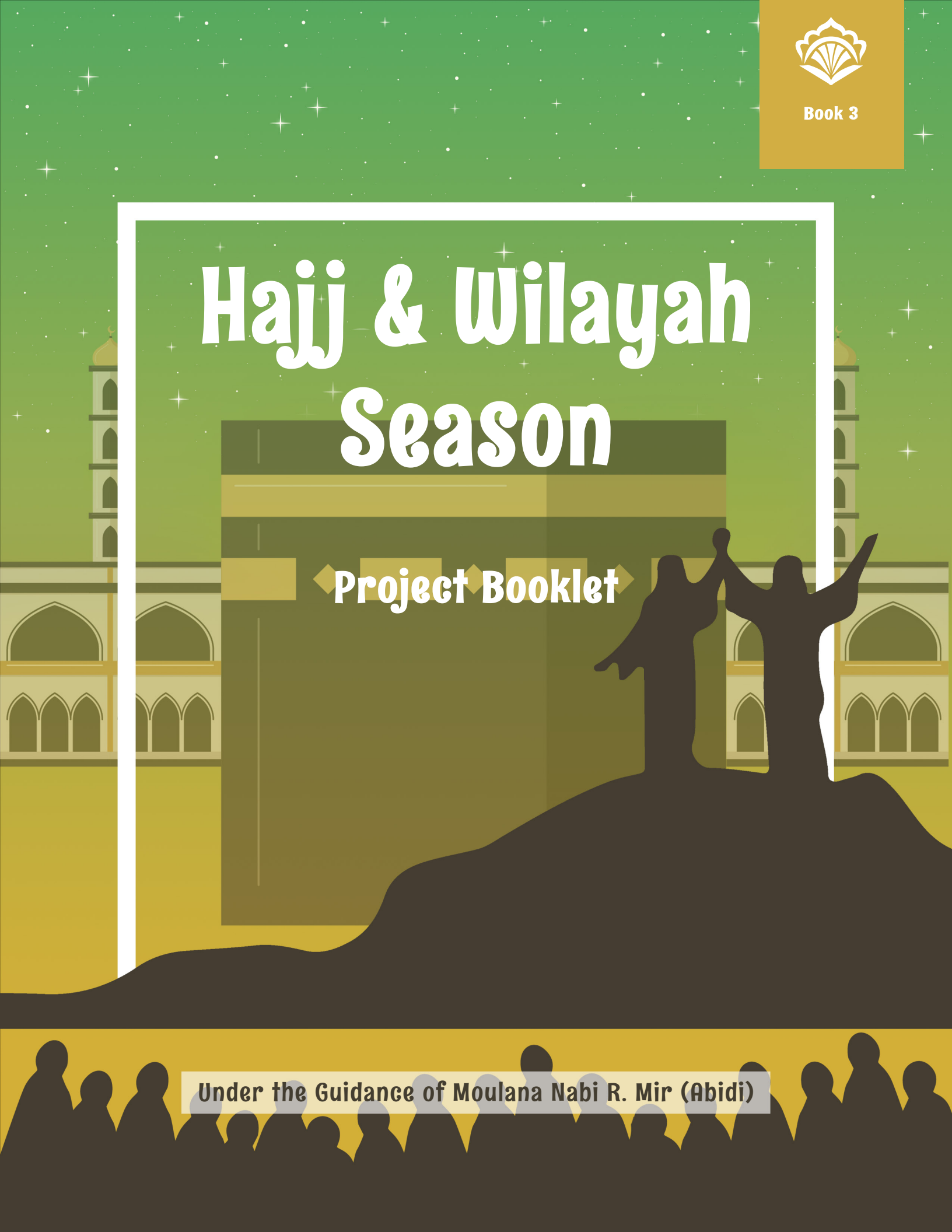
Book 3

Hajj & Wilayah Season

Project Booklet



Under the Guidance of Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

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Important dates in Dhul Ḥijjah

1st	Marriage of Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) and Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa)
7th	Shahādah of Imām Muḥammad al-Bāqir (ʿa)
8th	Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa) leaves from Mecca to Karbala in 60 AH
9th	Shahādah of Muslim bin ʿAqīl & Night of ʿArafah
10th	Eid ul-Aḍḥā
15th	Wilādah of Imām ʿAlī al-Hādī an-Naqī (ʿa)
18th	Eid al-Ghadīr
23rd	Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) gave his ring as charity, in rukūʿ
24th	Eid al-Mubāhalah & the Event of Ḥadīth al-Kisāʾ
25th	Sūrah al-Insān (Sūrah ad-Dahr) was revealed

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INFORMATION AND INSPIRATION:

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Create in the Chaos: House
Kids Activities Blog: Compass Rose

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بِسۡمِ اللّٰہِ الرَّحۡمٰنِ الرَّحِیۡمِ

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Salāmun ʿalaykum! May Allah (swt) bless you and your families.

Alḥamdulillāh, we will soon begin the month of Dhul Ḥijjah, the last month of the Islamic year. This is the month of Ḥajj and wilāyah. Millions of Muslims across the world gather in Mecca to perform the various acts of Ḥajj. When we think about Ḥajj, we immediately think about the Holy Kaʿbah, and how it is a symbol of unity for all Muslims. Regardless of race, status, or ethnicity, everyone who comes for Ḥajj wears the same garment and goes through an intensive course of self building and servitude to Allah (swt).

Ḥajj can be seen as a vehicle for us to attain humanity, a holistic package to make us better and *insān kāmil*. An interesting fact about Mecca is that the soil is not very good for growing anything. In fact, the locals bring soil from other cities so that the plants and trees can grow. However, this same land of Mecca is where human beings are made. It is where people go to grow spiritually, self build and become closer to Allah (swt).

There are different components in this pilgrimage. There is a physical component, like when we go between the mountains in *saʿī*, do *ṭawāf* of the Kaʿbah, and throw stones at the *jamarāt*. There is a social component, when we sacrifice a sheep and give to those who are in need. There is a spiritual component, when we worship in the plain of ʿArafah, during *ṭawāf*, when we collect pebbles to combat our nafs in Muzdalifah, and when we sit in Minā worship and reflect. Another action we do in Ḥajj is *barāʾah*, when we announce our dissatisfaction with those who oppress others. It is a way for us to detach ourselves from them, as mentioned in the principle of *tawallī* in the Furūʿ ad-Dīn.

In this land that creates human beings, Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) and Prophet Ismāʿīl (ʿa) were tested and earned a great status. Wilāyah is a continuation of their progeny. It is the continuation of this pure cleansing process to become a human being. We can do this through partnering ourselves with the aʾimmah. They guide us to the path of devotion and dedication so we don't fall onto the wrong path.

A very special event that took place in this month is the event of Ghadīr. It is considered the greatest eid that we celebrate each year. It was when Allah (swt) asked the Prophet (ṣ) to announce the wilāyah of Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) and the rest of the Imāms (ʿa). This announcement of wilāyah completed the message of the Prophet (ṣ) and Islam that he had been preaching for so many years. Wilāyah is not just about one person, it is the mission of all the prophets, and is the continuation of the path of *ḥaqq* and *bāṭil*.

The event of the kisāʾ also took place in the month of Dhul Ḥijjah. This is when Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) went to the house of his daughter, Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) and asked her to bring his Yemeni kisāʾ. The Noble Prophet (ṣ) covered himself with the kisāʾ, and one by one, Imām Ḥasan (ʿa), Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa), Imām ʿAlī (ʿa), and Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) joined him under the kisāʾ. When Angel Jabrāʾīl asked Allah (swt) who were the five people under the kisāʾ, He replied that it was Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa), her father, her sons, and her husband, and they were the People of the Kisāʾ. Allah (swt) also said that these were the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa). It was at this time that Allah (swt) revealed the verse of the Qurʾān about them, saying, *"Allah surely wants to keep the sin away from you, O People of the House! And to purify you an absolute purification"* (33:33). This story shows us how the Ahl al-Bayt's (ʿa) level is near Allah (swt), because they made good choices and practiced what they know. Their high status is what makes them the best guides for us.

While this month is filled with joy and celebration, it is also a month where we are reminded of the story of Karbala. During this month, we commemorate the shahādah of Ḥaḍrat Muslim ibn ʿAqīl, the cousin and repsresentative of Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa), who sacrificed his life standing with the Imām, even though he was alone. We will be ending Dhul Ḥijjah with preparation for the new year, and these preparations for Muḥarram is another way to develop and show our love of the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

We pray that through the lessons of this booklet, which focus on *wilāyah*, we are able to increase our *maʿrifah*, and strengthen our wilāyah of Imām ʿAlī (ʿa), inshāʾAllāh.

Jazākallāh Khayr and Best Wishes,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)
Resident ʿĀlim of SABA Islamic Center

Kindness is Sweet

Objective: Students will learn about Ḥajj and one of its many lessons.

We have begun the month of Dhul Ḥijjah, and the first major event that takes place in this month is Ḥajj. Ḥajj is when we go to Mecca and do various acts of worship. It is obligatory upon every Muslim at least once in their lifetime, when certain conditions are met.

Muslims from around the world come for Ḥajj, wear the same clothes, and go through the same rituals in order to get closer to Allah (swt). This shows that we are all equal as Muslims and as humans. There may be some differences between us, but that doesn't mean we should treat each other differently. Only taqwā and God consciousness can make us better than others and only Allah (swt) can judge a person's actions, intentions, and God-consciousness. Therefore we should still be compassionate and kind with all.

Once, the Prophet's (ṣ) companions were sitting together eating. Suddenly, a man who had all sorts of unpleasant patches on his face came and sat with them. No one wanted to sit near him! One by one, everyone sitting near him got up to leave. The poor man was heartbroken; they treated him horribly just because he looked different from them.

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) was seated nearby, and saw how the Muslims were treating this man. He went and sat next to him. The man was overcome with joy and gratitude when the Prophet (ṣ) sat with him. The Prophet (ṣ) smiled at him, and began a pleasant conversation.

This simple act of humanity by the Noble Prophet (ṣ) shows that no one has the right to be unkind to anyone just because they are different. Today, we are going to do an activity that will show us ways to be kind to others.

Sweet Treat Activity

Suggested Ages: 5+

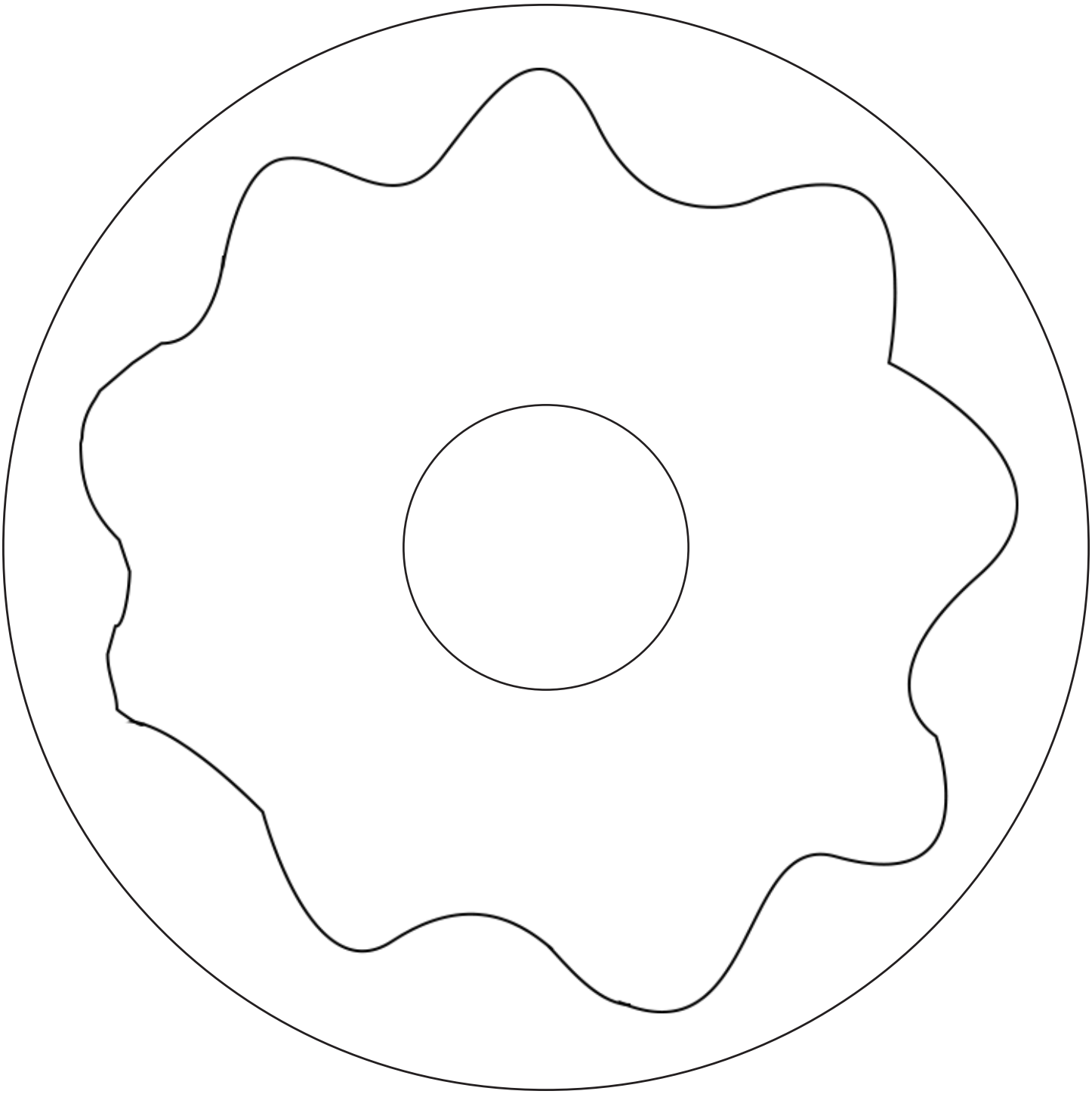
Time: 40 minutes

Materials:

- Donut template
- Colored paper
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue

Procedure:

1. Color and decorate the donut however you like.
2. From the colored paper, cut out small strips to use as sprinkles.
3. On each strip of colored paper, write one way you can be kind to others.
4. Glue the colored strips on the donut, like they are sprinkles.



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Our Intentions Matter

Objective: Students will learn about the importance of our intentions.

We celebrate Eid al-Aḍḥā on the 10th of Dhul Ḥijjah, in honor of Prophet Ibrāhīm's (ʿa) sacrifice. Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) had a dream that he was sacrificing his son, Prophet ʿIsmāīl (ʿa), who he loved very much. He had this dream three times and understood that Allah (swt) was ordering him to sacrifice his son. Just as Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) was preparing to sacrifice his son, Allah (swt) replaced Prophet ʿIsmāīl (ʿa) with a sheep and informed Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) that his sacrifice had been accepted.

Prophet Ibrāhīm's (ʿa) faith and trust in Allah (swt) was so strong, that he was ready to sacrifice his son to obey Him. His intention to do what Allah (swt) had asked him to do was clear and for the sake of Allah (swt). Anything we do should be for the sake of Allah (swt). Ḥajj is one such act that requires us to have a clear intention.

There are three spiritual stages of Ḥajj. The first stage is to have pure intentions. When we go for Ḥajj, it is very important that our intention and motivation for going is to obey what Allah (swt) has asked us do to, and not for other reasons, such as showing off or as a leisure trip. The second stage is repentance, or seeking forgiveness. It is important to purify our souls from the sins we may have committed by asking for forgiveness, just as we purify our bodies with water. The third stage is detachment from what is not godly. This means we should settle our worldly problems before going on this journey toward Allah (swt). Even if we are not going for Ḥajj, we can still make good intentions, ask for forgiveness, and return anything we may have borrowed. Today, we are going to do an activity that will help us remember these stages of Ḥajj.

Stages of Ḥajj

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

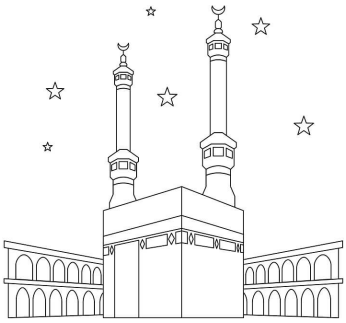
Materials:

- Stages of Ḥajj template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- A paper fastener

Procedure:

1. Color and decorate the template however you like.
2. Cut out each circle by cutting along the dotted lines. Note that one circle has a piece cut out of it.
3. Carefully cut a hole in the middle of each circle using a pencil or scissors.
4. Place the blank circle on top of the circle with the stages of Ḥajj on it.
5. Line up the holes and place the paper fastener in the holes. Fold the paper fastener closed.
6. Now you should be able to turn the top circle to see each stage of Ḥajj individually.

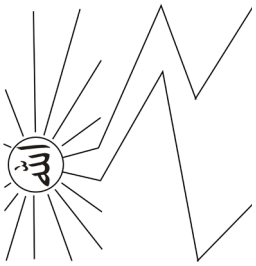
The Stages of Ḥajj



Stage 1: Pure Intention

Stage 2: Repentence

Stage 3: Detachment from what is not Godly



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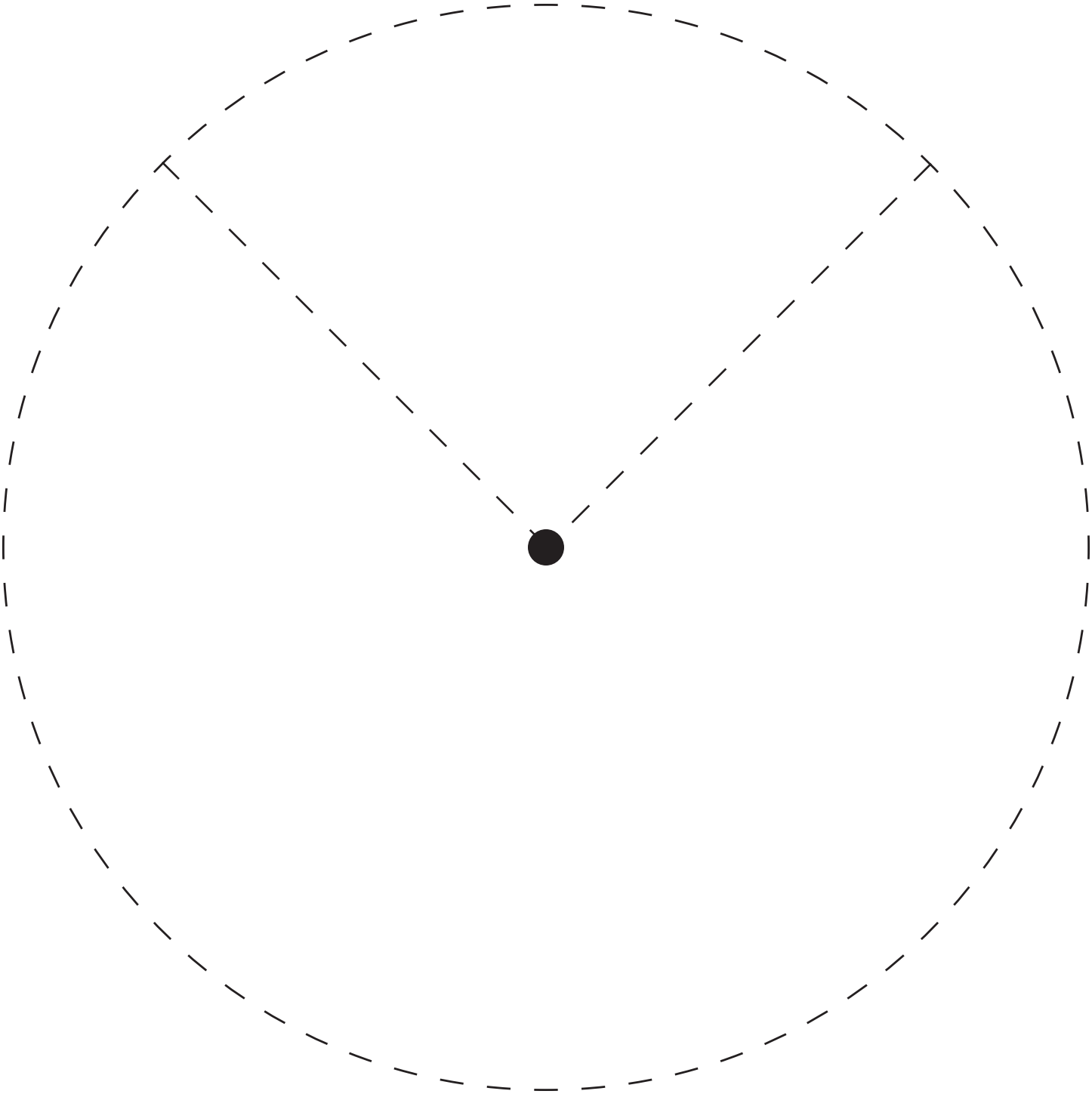

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Finding My Friend

Objective: Students will learn about what they need, to have wilāyah.

On 18th Dhul Ḥijjah, we celebrate Eid al-Ghadīr. It is a very important day, when the Noble Prophet (ṣ) appointed Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) to be the walī of all Muslims. A walī is someone who has the best characteristics, and guides people to the right path. Having wilāyah of the Imāms (ʿa) is a way for us to get closer to Allah (swt), because they are close to Allah (swt) and guide us toward Him.

Think about climbing a ladder. When a person climbs a ladder, they have to go one step at a time in order to reach the top. Similarly, when we want to climb the ladder of wilāyah to get closer to Allah (swt), we need to go step by step. The first step is to have *maʿrifah* of the walī. This means that we should have knowledge of our walī, and know their teachings and guidance. The next step is to have *ḥubb* of the walī, or love for them. When we love someone, we are more likely to follow their teachings and do what makes them happy. Which leads to the last step to wilāyah, showing it through our *ʿamāl*, or actions. Once we know how the walī acts and what makes them happy, we should try to do those things.

What are some actions we can do to try and imitate our walī? We can have good akhlāq, show kindness and compassion to others, gain knowledge, and help others by guiding them if they are making a mistake. Today, we are going to do a craft that will show us how we can have wilāyah of our walī and get closer to Allah (swt).

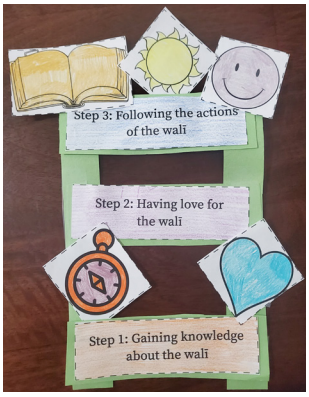
Ladder Craft

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

Materials:

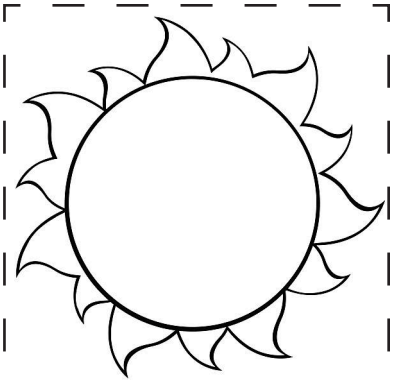
- Ladder steps template
- Colored paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue/tape



Procedure:

1. Color and decorate the pictures and ladder steps however you like.
2. Cut out the ladder steps by cutting along the dotted lines.
3. From one sheet of colored paper, cut out 2 long strips of paper, about 2 inches wide.
4. From another sheet of colored paper, cut out 3 short strips of paper, about 2 inches wide.
5. Set up the strips of paper to make a ladder. To do this, place the long paper strips up and down on either side, and the short paper strips across in between.
6. Glue or tape the paper strips together to make the ladder.
7. Now, glue the ladder steps on each short strip of paper. Start with step 1 on the bottom step.
8. Glue the pictures on the ladder anywhere you like. They represent some of the actions we can do to show we are practicing the actions of our walī.

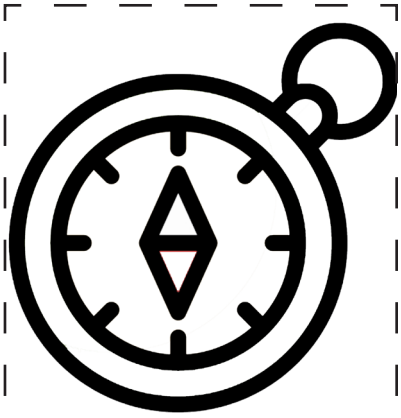
Step 3: Following the actions of the walī



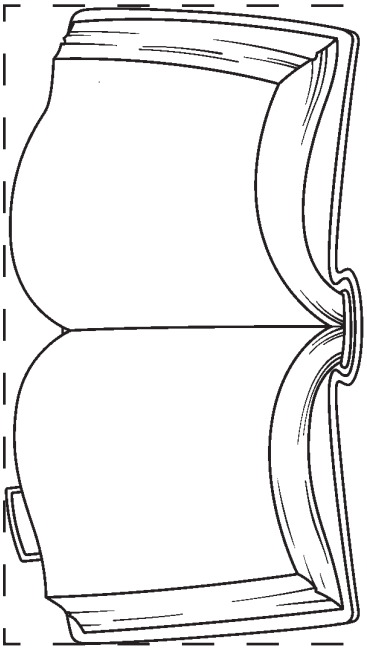
good akhlāq shines out

Step 2: Having love for the walī

Step 1: Gaining knowledge about the walī

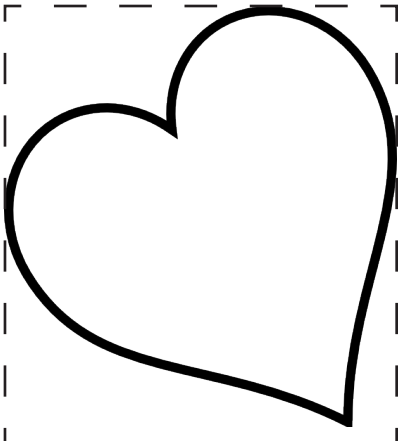


guiding others



gaining knowledge

being kind



having compassion

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People of the House

Objective: Students will learn who the people of the house are.

One day in the month of Dhul Ḥijjah, Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) went to the house of his daughter, Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa). He asked her to bring his Yemeni kisāʾ, his cloak from Yemen. The Noble Prophet (ṣ) covered himself with the kisāʾ. Soon after, Imām Ḥasan (ʿa), Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa), Imām ʿAlī (ʿa), and Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) joined him under the kisāʾ. When these five people were covered with the kisāʾ, Angel Jabrāʾīl asked Allah (swt) who they were. He told Angel Jabrāʾīl that it was Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa), her father, her sons, and her husband, and they were the People of the Kisāʾ. Allah (swt) also said that these were the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) or the people of the Prophet's (ṣ) household.

The Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) are the most perfectly purified people. In the Qurʾān, Allah (swt) revealed about them saying, *"Allah surely wants to keep the sin away from you, O People of the House! And to purify you an absolute purification."*[1]

This story shows us how the Ahl al-Bayt's (ʿa) level is near Allah (swt), because they made good choices and practiced what they know. Their high status is what makes them the best guides for us. Today, we are going to make a craft that will show the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) in their house, under the kisāʾ.

1 Noble Qurʾān, Sūrah al-Aḥzāb, 33:33

House Craft

Suggested Ages: 5+

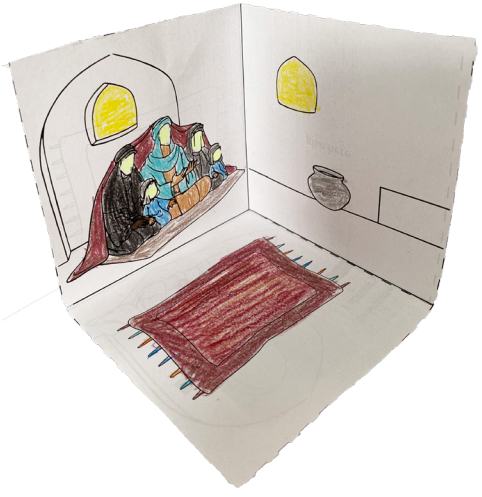
Time: 40 minutes

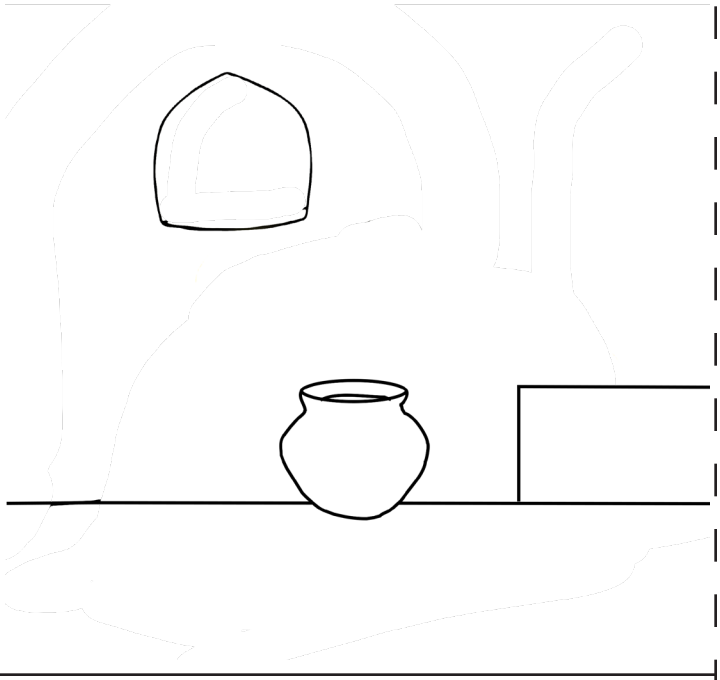
Materials:

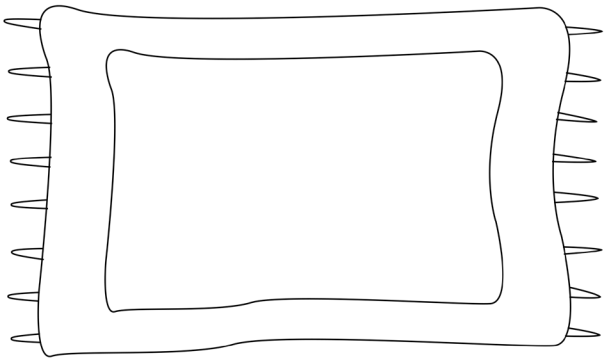
- House template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

Procedure:

1. Color and decorate the pictures however you like.
2. Cut out the large square by cutting along the dotted lines.
3. Fold the square into 4 by folding along the lines in the middle. Open up the folds.
4. Cut along the 1 dotted line between the 2 bottom squares.
5. Place the left bottom square over the square that says "glue here." This should bring the images together to make it look like a room of a house.
6. Glue those two squares together, making sure the one with the picture is on top and the one that says "glue here" is covered.







glue here

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Qualities of a Guide

Objective: Students will learn about the qualities of a guide that make them worthy to be followed.

Another significant event that takes place in the month of Dhul Ḥijjah is the event of Mubāhalah. This is when the Christians of Najrān came to talk to Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) about their beliefs. The Christians of Najran did not want to accept the answers that the Noble Prophet (ṣ) gave in response to their arguments. Allah (swt) then revealed a verse in the Qurʾān, saying for the Prophet (ṣ) to have a Mubāhalah, or challenge, with them. The Christians accepted, which meant that whoever was wrong in their beliefs, the curse of Allah (swt) would be on them.

On the day of 24th Dhul Ḥijjah, 10 A.H., the Prophet (ṣ) brought Imām Ḥasan (ʿa), Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa), Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa), and Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) with him to the Mubāhalah. When the Christians saw that the Noble Prophet (ṣ) had brought his Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) with him, they were sure that the Prophet (ṣ) was telling the truth. The Prophet (ṣ) was so confident about Islam being the truth, that he brought his close family to a challenge that could be dangerous. Due to this, they gave up the challenge of Mubāhalah.

There are certain qualities the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) have that make them good role models. They are free from sin and error, honest, and knowledgeable, to name just a few. Think about reading a map. In the corner, there is usually a star shaped symbol called a compass rose. It shows the cardinal directions and is what helps determine which direction we need to go. The Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) are like a compass rose, in that they show us the way we need to go, to reach Allah (swt). Today, we will be making a craft that will show us the qualities of the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) that make them the best guides for us.

Compass Rose Activity

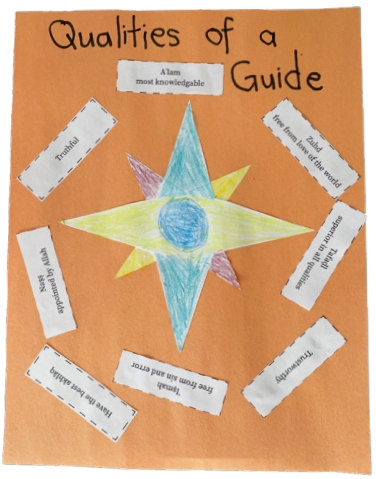
Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

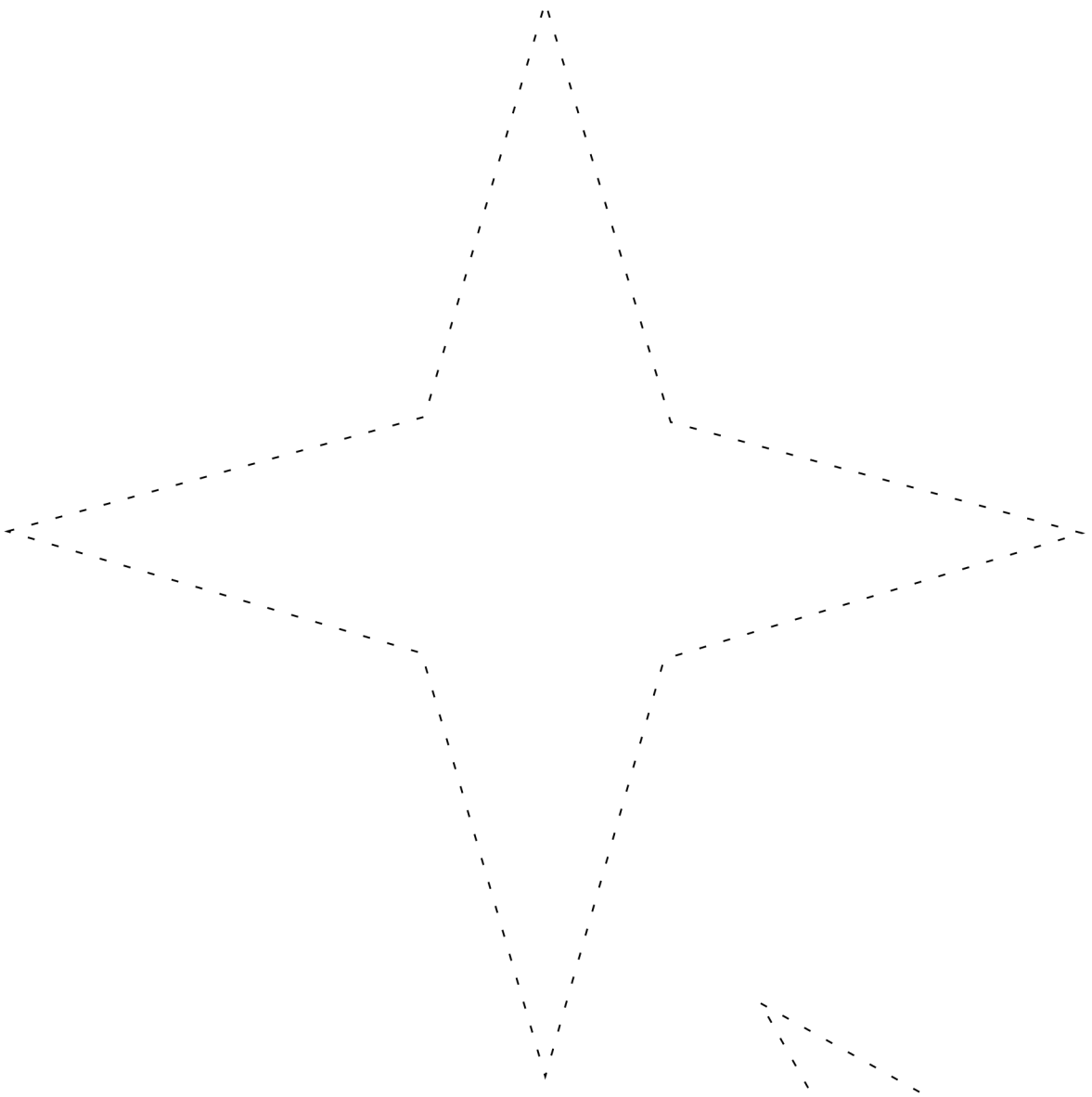
Materials:

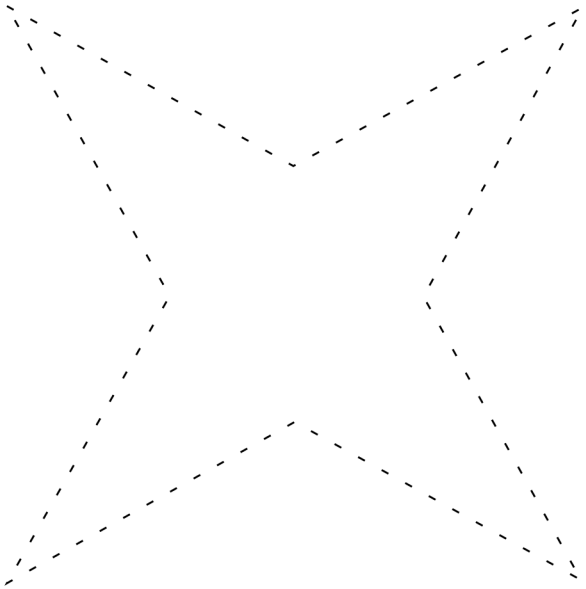
- Compass rose template
- A sheet of colored paper
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

Procedure:



1. Color and decorate the pieces of the compass rose however you like.
2. Cut out each piece by cutting along the dotted lines.
3. Glue the smaller piece on the colored paper with the points facing the corners of the paper (like an "x").
4. Glue the bigger piece on top of the smaller one, with the 4 points facing up, down, and on either side (like plus sign).
5. Cut out the qualities of a guide by cutting along the dotted lines.
6. Glue each quality at each point of the compass rose.
7. At the top of the paper, you can write "Qualities of a Guide" or something similar.





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ʿIṣmah
free from sin and error

Naṣṣ
appointed by Allah

Tafaḍl
superior in all qualities

Truthful

Zuhd
free from love of the world

Have the best akhlāq

Aʿlam
most knowledgable

Trustworthy

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AL-KISA FOUNDATION

UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY